COUNTY OF KAUAI Minutes of Meeting **Open Session**

Board/Con	nmittee:	LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION	Meeting Date	September 17,	, 2015
Location	Moʻikeha Building, Meeting Room #3		Start of Meeting	: 4:00 p.m.	End of Meeting: p.m.
Present	Chair Paul Endo, Vice Chair Josephine Sokei; Members: Members: Ventura Also: Liquor Control Staff: Director Gerald Rapozo, Private Secret				
Excused					
Absent					

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call To Order		Chair Endo called the meeting to order at 4:00
		p.m. with 7 members present, constituting a
		quorum.
Roll Call	Director Rapozo called roll, noting 7 members were present.	
Approval of the		Ms. Akita moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Sokei seconded the motion.
Agenda		Motion carried 7:0.
Public Hearing		Due to the absence of applicant representation,
		Chair Endo allowed the agenda to be taken out of
		order.
	c) SAM'S ON THE BEACH: Application No. 2016-24 was filed on	
	August 5, 2015 for transfer of Restaurant General License No. 2G-074	
	(live entertainment and dancing) from Coconut Coast Restaurant, LLC	
	dba Beachwalk Restaurant & Grill to Sam's on the Beach, LLC dba	
	Sam's on the Beach located at 4-1546 Kūhi'ō Highway, Kapa'a, Kauai,	
	Hawai'i. The Commission accepted Application No. 2016-24 for	
	publication and public hearing on August 20, 2015 and ordered to print	

notices of public hearing in The Garden Island newspaper on Friday, August 28, 2015 scheduling the public hearing on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter in Meeting Room #3 of the Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. Samantha Reynold's, owner, was present. Ms. Reynold's asked to clarify the live entertainment condition. As stated in the report, the licensee may have live entertainment until 10:00 p.m. She asked that on the specified number of occasions per year that she may be allowed to have live entertainment until 11:00, must she notify the property owner to which Director Rapozo replied yes. Commissioner Akita stated that prior approval allows for 24 special occasion days, and asked what the reason for that was. Director Rapozo explained that at the original public hearing, the neighboring establishment, which is a hostel, had concerns over noise that may affect the guests there. To date, the department has received no complaints from that property owner, or any other properties in the area. Commissioner Akita asked the applicant if she were aware that there were only 24 special occasion days to which Ms. Reynold's replied yes, noting	Ms. Akita moved to approve Application No.
that they do not intend to be a late-night establishment.	2016-24. Ms. Sokei seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
b) TROY'S LLC: Application No. 2016-11 was filed on July 15, 2015 by Troy's LLC dba Troy's for a Dispenser General (live entertainment and dancing) license located at 3-3122 Kūhi'ō Highway, Līhu'e, Kauai, Hawai'i. The Commission accepted Application No. 2016-11 for publication and public hearing on July 16, 2015 and ordered to print notices of public hearing in The Garden Island newspaper on Wednesdays, July 22 & 29, 2015 scheduling the public hearing on	

Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter in Meeting Room #3 of the Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i.

Raymond Morikawa, Managing Member, was present along with Troy Morikawa,

Commissioner Akita asked where the exact location of the proposed premise is to which Mr. T. Morikawa replied it is in the Līhu'e Annex complex across from McDonald's; right next to KCL.

Commissioner Matsunaga asked what Mr. R. Morikawa's role would be in the operation of the business to which Mr. R. Morikawa replied he would play a supporting role in the business, and would only be on premises as needed.

Mr. T. Morikawa further explained Mr. R. Morikawa would work at the establishment as needed, and has recently obtained a Blue Manager's Card.

Commissioner Ventura pointed out that the report states the Calvary Chapel will be sixty (60) feet south in the same building, and asked to clarify that the applicant will be operating a bar, but not serving food. Mr. T. Morikawa replied yes, explaining that he has a menu set up with KCL, who will be providing food ordered from Troy's establishment.

Chair Endo noted the application states they plan to have Contemporary Hawaiian music from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm, 7 days a week, and asked if they planned to expand those hours. Mr. T. Morikawa stated he is unsure whether he will have Hawaiian music 7 nights a week; maybe just 2-3 nights a week. However, they will have a karaoke system in the establishment, which will be available whenever there is no live Hawaiian music.

Chair Endo asked whether the karaoke needed to be included in the application for approval to which Director Rapozo explained karaoke requires a permit issued by the Department, which the applicant can request separately. In response to Chair Endo, Mr. T. Morikawa stated karaoke could last up until 1:30 a.m.	
Chair Endo asked to clarify the statement in the report that should the need arise, the applicant will provide soundproofing of the establishment if there are any complaints to which Mr. T. Morikawa replied yes.	
Commissioner Oda asked whether any church services will be taking place during the hours they will have live music or karaoke. Mr. T. Morikawa stated the pastor of Calvary Chapel expressed that he was not concerned with noise levels. However, he did express concerns that on nights they have bible study, there will be young people in attendance, and worries that an intoxicated patron of the bar may get in a vehicle and endanger the kids. Commissioner Akita noted that they received no communication in opposition of the application.	
Commissioner Oda asked whether KCL understands they will be providing food 7 days a week during the establishment's operation to which Mr. T. Morikawa stated KCL is open 7 days a week as well from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; after 10:00 p.m. no food will be served. Because Troy's does not have a certified kitchen, patrons will be allowed to bring in their own food.	Ms. Akita moved to approve Application No. 2016-11. Ms. Sokei seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
d) WESTIN PRINCEVILLE OCEAN RESORT VILLAS: Application No. 2016-27 was filed on August 10, 2015 for transfer of Hotel License No. 12G-007 from Western Host, Inc. dba The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas to FOH Hospitality, LLC dba The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas located at 3838 Wylie Road, Princeville, Kauai,	

Hawai'i. The Commission accepted Application No. 2016-24 for publication and public hearing on August 20, 2015 and ordered to print notices of public hearing in The Garden Island newspaper on Friday, August 28, 2015 scheduling the public hearing on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter in Meeting Room #3 of the Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i.	
Mr. Jason Sessions, Food & Beverage Director, was present representing the applicant.	Ms. Iida moved to approve Application No. 2016-24. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
e) PRINCEVILLE MARKET: Application No. 2016-28 was filed on August 10, 2015 for transfer of Retail Dealer General License No. 4G-061 from Western Host, Inc. dba Princeville Market to FOH Hospitality, LLC dba Princeville Market located at 3838 Wylie Road, Princeville, Kauai. Hawai'i. The Commission accepted Application No. 2016-24 for publication and public hearing on August 20, 2015 and ordered to print notices of public hearing in The Garden Island newspaper on Friday, August 28, 2015 scheduling the public hearing on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter in Meeting Room #3 of the Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i.	
Mr. Jason Sessions, Food & Beverage Director, was present representing the applicant.	Ms. Iida moved to approve Application No. 2016-28. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
a) KAUAI BLUE, INC. Application No. 2016-06 was filed on July 13, 2015 by Kauai Blue, Inc. dba Sheraton Kauai Resort/Link Cafe for a Retail Dealer General license located at 2441 Hoonani Road, Kōloa, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. The Commission accepted Application No. 2016-06	

	for publication and public hearing on July 16, 2015 and ordered to print notices of public hearing in The Garden Island newspaper on Wednesdays, July 22 & 29, 2015 scheduling the public hearing on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter in Meeting Room #3 of the Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. Ms. Yon Hui Burgett, Director of Finance, was present representing the applicant.	Ms. Iida moved to approve Application No. 2016-06. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
Violation Hearings	 a) MEA INU BEER KIOSK: Violation of HRS 281-31(f)(1) Class 5 Dispenser Licenses. Director Rapozo stated that the attorney for the licensee has submitted a request for a continuance of the violation hearing until November 5, 2015. 	Mr. Matsunaga moved to approve the continuance. Ms. Iida seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
	b) PORT ALLEN SUSNSET GRILL & BAR: Violation of Rule 7.13 Fight and disturbance reports. Director Rapozo stated that per Rule 3.11, the licensee has waived his right to a violation hearing, and has paid a fine of \$50. Commissioner Matsunaga commented that he feels the fine issued for the waiver is inadequate, noting that had the licensee showed up, he would likely have had a fine of \$250. With this waiver, it seems as though he is rewarded for not attending the hearing. Director Rapozo noted the current rule amendments will be addressing that.	Ms. Ventura moved to accept the waiver of right to a violation hearing, and fine of \$50. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.

c) <u>ISLAND PALM:</u> Violation of Rule 4.7(a)(1) Gross liquor sales report, percentage fee, and records.

Mr. William Choy, President, was present; no counsel. Charges admitted.

Commissioner Oda asked to clarify how was it determined that there was a failure to provide a true and accurate report.

Investigator Lorenzo Moises explained that Mr. Choy submitted a gross liquor sales report on July 3, 2015, and then on August 24, 2015 he submitted an amended gross sales report, therefore, his original report was inaccurate.

Commissioner Akita asked to clarify that Mr. Choy sent in a report, and then upon the Department contacting him he submitted an amended report. Investigator Moises clarified that the Department did NOT contact Mr. Choy, he submitted it on his own.

Commissioner Akita commented that he, himself, took it upon himself to correct the error, yet now he is being cited for a violation for an inaccurate report submitted on time; the report was not due until the 31st. Director Rapozo stated that because the CORRECT report was not submitted by July 31, that warranted the violation. Commission Akita then noted that if Mr. Choy did not say anything, they would not have known it was incorrect. Director Rapozo explained that the gross sales report asks for food sales, liquor sales, and the total of the two. Mr. Choy transposed the amounts accidentally, which caused the percentage fee he owed to the Department to be very high. This is what triggered the realization that he had incorrectly reported the figures. Commissioner Akita stated it was an honest mistake that he tried to correct. Director Rapozo stated it was NOT a correct report, to which Commissioner Akita replied that it was an honest mistake. Chair Endo stated that technically it was incorrect. Attorney Courson further

clarified that the Department is saying had Mr. Choy caught his mistake and got it in before the deadline of July 31, 2015, he would not have received a violation. It's not solely for the incorrect reporting, it's also for submitting past the due date. Commissioner Akita explained the reason for her motion is because she is giving him credit for honestly correcting his error.	Ms. Akita moved to impose a fine of \$250 with \$125 suspended provided there is no conviction of the same violation in the next reporting year, ending July 31, 2016. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
d) <u>LEMON GRASS GRILL & SEAFOOD</u> : Violation of Rule 4.7(a)(1) Gross liquor sales report, percentage fee, and records.	
Mr. William Choy, President, was present; no counsel. Charges admitted.	Ms. Akita moved to impose a fine of \$250 with \$125 suspended provided there is no conviction of the same violation in the next reporting year, ending July 31, 2016. Mr. Oda seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
e) <u>KAUAI SPORTS BAR & ASIAN CUISINE</u> : Violation of Rule 4.7(d) Records and accounts.	
Prior to the opening of the violation hearing, Ms. Lieu Suynh assisted by Ms. Wilma Bumanglag provided testimony. Neither of the individuals present hold any position in the corporation, and after some discussion with the Deputy County Attorney, it was determined that the Power of Attorney presented to the Commission by Ms. Suynh did not contain sufficient language to allow for her representation of the licensee. The Commission received Ms. Suynh's testimony.	
Ms. Suynh explained that the licensee is currently in ill health and on the mainland. She stated that if it is required she can have the licensee complete another Power of Attorney that would be more sufficient, and have it mailed here.	

Chair Endo asked when the licensee will be returning, to which Ms. Suynh replied they are unsure because he is very sick.

Commissioner Matsunaga asked whether the establishment is still dispensing alcohol, to which Ms. Suynh replied yes. Commissioner Akita asked if they have access to or know where all the records are. Ms. Bumanglag explained the bookkeeper was working on it, but it takes two to three weeks for them to compile all of the receipts and paperwork. They are currently working on it, and will hopefully finish in the next three weeks. Commissioner Akita asked if the bookkeeper is aware that they may lose their liquor license to which Ms. Bumanglag replied they did not know that, but they are aware now. However, they are unable to do anything since they have only received all of the receipts last week.

Commissioner Oda pointed out that the request for the information was made back on August 7, at which time the licensee asked for an extension that was not granted. It is now the end of September, which is far beyond three weeks. He questioned why it is taking so long to obtain the paperwork. Ms. Bumanglag explained that the bookkeepers are still trying to get all the papers, but they were not given it right away. Commissioner Akita asked who is supposed to give it to the bookkeeper to which Ms. Suynh explained her husband lives in Honolulu, but would come to Kauai to take care of the business. However, he now has someone else taking care of the business. The person who runs the bar, Troy Morikawa, had all of the receipts, and just gave it to them last week.

Attorney Courson advised the Commission either grant a continuance to allow the testifiers to obtain a more comprehensive Power of Attorney, which would place them in a position to admit or deny the charges, or they can continue to ask questions and use them as a resource, but he does not recommend Ms. Suynh be asked to admit or deny charges on behalf of the establishment. The Commission can render the decision based on the

licensee being a no-show, but should not put Ms. Suynh in a position to make a decision on behalf of the licensee.

Commissioner Matsunaga stated he feels the issue before them is whether to allow the licensee to continue to operate when they are not in compliance, or can the Commission - if they grant a continuance - conditionally suspend the license until the records are made available. Otherwise, he noted, nothing is to prevent them from continuing to not provide the records for the next two or three months, and still be allowed to sell liquor. He asked if there is a provision that authorizes the Commission to suspend until the matter is resolved. Attorney Courson stated that is a question that is new to him, and he is not aware of the ability to suspend a license short of issuing a violation. Commissioner Matsunaga expressed his concern that this could potentially go on for a long time considering the licensee is not on island, and should they wait for a new Power of Attorney that is more specific, it could take weeks, and may still be unsatisfactory.

Commissioner Matsunaga again asked whether Troy Morikawa is in possession of all of the receipts to which Ms. Suynh replied yes, but he has given it to them as of a week ago.

Commissioner Iida requested the Liquor Investigator come up to provide further information on the violation.

Liquor Investigator Lorenzo Moises stated he was contacted by the licensee's bookkeeper, who informed him that she lives on the mainland, but comes to Maui occasionally to take care of the books. He suggested the bookkeeper come before the Commission to explain.

Chair Endo stated he feels the Commission cannot render a decision at this time, and would like to have a continuance to allow an authorized representative be present, or obtain adequate documentation to allow these

individuals to represent the licensee. Commissioner Oda asked if they agree to move for a continuance, how long that would be to which Chair Endo stated until the next meeting. Commissioner Oda stated the Commission might want to consider a continuance to allow the necessary documents to be gathered, as well as a more adequate Power of Attorney. Should they fail to get either one in, the Commission can then make a decision to possibly suspend the license.

Commissioner Sokei asked to clarify that the Commission cannot suspend the license until the requested documents are received to which Chair Endo explained they have not yet even had a hearing because there is no authorized representative present. Attorney Courson stated he feels the Commission could make a decision based off of the Investigator's report, and have a hearing. However, he does not feel that Ms. Suynh should admit or deny charges on behalf of the licensee without the proper Power of Attorney. The hearing can be handled as the licensee not showing up. The two options he sees are either a continuance with instructions to the licensee, or to have the hearing and note the licensee did not send an authorized representative. He feels the Commission could still have a hearing and make a decision based on the evidence available at this time.

Commissioner Oda moved to continue the hearing to allow the licensee time to provide the requested documentation, and to provide adequate legal documentation authorizing Ms. Suynh to represent the licensee, with failure to do so resulting in suspension of the license. Commissioner Akita advised not to include a threat in the motion to which Commissioner Oda replied it is not a threat, but a consequence for failure to comply with the conditions of his motion. Commissioner Akita seconded the motion for discussion purposes.

Commissioner Akita stated for clarification that the violation is that the licensee failed to submit all the requested records by a certain date, and that

what the Commission is getting hung up on is how to help the individuals that are present today to obtain a proper Power of Attorney. She noted that the licensee could have sent an attorney to represent him, but instead sent someone who is not an employee, and of unknown relationship to the licensee. She is confused between the hearing for the violation of not turning in the requested documents, and the request for a Power of Attorney document; it's muddied up, and she would like some clarity.

Director Rapozo provided a background of the circumstances, explaining that when the licensee submitted their gross sales report prior to July 31, 2015, the numbers did not look right, which prompted Investigator Moises to request they re-check their sales report. Because of the questionable numbers provided by the licensee, the department initiated an audit, and began working with the auditors on Oʻahu. In order to get the audit started, the licensee needed to provide the information requested by the department. Once a request is officially made with a letter signed by the Director, the licensee has 48 hours to submit the requested information. This particular violation is the result of the licensee's failure to do so. Director Rapozo further clarified that State law says a set of books must be kept in the State of Hawaii, and they cannot proceed with the audit until the information is received.

Commissioner Matsunaga asked where the books are, and whether they are on the island. Ms. Suynh replied that Troy Morikawa had the books, and just gave it back to them; it is being worked on right now. Chair Endo asked to clarify that the licensee does have the records to which Ms. Bumanglag replied yes, the bookkeeper is working on it, and has informed them it will take about 3 weeks to finish.

Attorney Courson stated the Commission has a certain amount of information available, and they could make a decision based on that if they wish.

Chair Endo stated that they began all of this discussion without giving the individuals present the proper oath, and asked if they choose to make a decision, should they do so first; how will the Commission make a decision if they are not accepting the individuals present as representatives of the licensee? Attorney Courson clarified that the Commission would not be asking Ms. Suynh to admit or deny the charges, and the hearing would be treated as a default because no one showed up as an authorized representative of the licensee. All the information received by the Commission was not under oath, but based on the information in the investigator's report as well as the absence of an authorized representative, a decision could still be justified.

Commissioner Akita stated that should the current motion fail, they could make another motion based on the fact the licensee did not submit the records. Attorney Courson agreed, pointing out that, itself, is the only issue the Commission would be making a decision on at this time. Should there be a separate violation after this, the licensee will be back for another separate hearing.

Commissioner Akita moved to impose a fine of \$1,000. Commissioner Ventura seconded the motion.

Commissioner Matsunaga stated he felt it was premature until they actually hold them in default; they are jumping right into the sentencing when there has not been a determination of default yet. Attorney Courson also pointed out that the Commission would have to have an actual hearing in order to impose a penalty, which they have not done. Commissioner Akita asked to clarify that without a hearing, they cannot impose a fine to which Attorney Courson replied yes. Commissioner Matsunaga asked to clarify that they

Mr. Oda moved for a continuance to the October 15, 2015 meeting to allow the licensee time to provide the requested pre-audit documents as well as sufficient legal documentation giving authorization to represent the licensee. Ms. Akita seconded the motion. Motion failed 7:0.

could hold a hearing, make three calls for representation, and if none appears, make a decision for default and add sanctions to which Attorney Courson affirmed.

Commissioner Ventura withdrew her second, Commissioner Akita withdrew her motion.

The violation hearing was officially opened. There were no representatives of the licensee present. Investigator Herman made three calls for representatives of the licensee; there was no response to calls for representatives of the licensee.

Commissioner Matsunaga requested that Investigator Moises put forth under oath a prima facie case.

Investigator Moises testified that on August 7, 2015 the department sent a letter informing the licensee of a pre-audit, along with a request for various documents. While Rule 4.7(d) requires the documents be provided within 48 hours, the licensee was given one week. Prior to the one-week deadline, the licensee requested an extension of two-weeks, which the department denied; however, the licensee was given an additional 6 days to provide the requested documents. Presently, the department still has not received these documents.

Commissioner Iida asked who requested the extension to which Investigator Moises replied the request was made by Ms. Suynh, the licensee's wife. Ms. Bumanglag added that Ms. Suynh is the person currently running the bar, and has access to their accounts. Commissioner Iida pointed out that the report states the extension was requested by someone else to which Investigator Moises stated the name in the report is the restaurant manager; the establishment has one manager for the bar, and a different manager for the restaurant.

Mr. Matsunaga moved that based on the testimony provided by the Liquor Investigator,

	The violation hearing was closed.	the Commission finds the licensee guilty of violating Rule 4.7(d). Ms. Akita seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
		Ms. Sokei moved to impose a fine of \$1,000, and order that all requested information be submitted to the department by September 30, 2015 with a failure to do so resulting in further sanctions. Ms. Akita seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
	Commissioner Matsunaga asked Ms. Suynh, and Ms. Bumanglag whether they understood that all the requested information must be submitted by September 30, 2015, or they face the possibility of having their license revoked. Ms. Suynh replied yes.	
Minutes of the Meeting	Minutes of the Meeting of September 3, 2015	Ms. Akita moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Sokei seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
1.	<u>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u> :	
	a) <u>INVESTIGATORS' REPORTS</u>	
	b) INCOMING COMMUNICATIONS: (1) From The Wine Group (2) From Delicato Family Vineyards (3) From Avid Marketing Group (4) Disturbance reports from Rob's Good Times Grill	
	c) OUTGOING COMMUNICATIONS: (1) To The Wine Group (2) To Delicato Family Vineyards (3) To Avid Marketing Group (4) Notice of Hearing to Mea Inu Beer Kiosk, Port Allen Sunset Grill &	

	Bar, Island Palm, Lemon Grass Grill & Seafood, and Kauai Sports Bar & Asian Cuisine (5) To All Wholesale Licensees, Re: New Liquor License for Safeway (Līhu'e), and Street Burger d) EMPLOYEES IN LICENSED PREMISES: Managers and Assistant Managers – See Attachment. e) ACTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR: (1) EATING HOUSE 1849 BY ROY YAMAGUCHI (2) POIPU BEACH ATHLETIC CLUB (3) TORTILLA REPUBLIC (4) POIPU BEACH ATHLETIC CLUB (5) DESTINATION EVENTS HAWAII LLC (6) HOLLAND AMERICA LINE N.V (7) DESTINATION EVENTS HAWAII LLC (8) KAUAI LIFEGUARD ASSOCIATION (9) KAUAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (10) WAIOLI CORPORATION	Mr. Oda moved to receive Items 1 (a) through (f).
		Ms. Iida seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
2.	<u>VIOLATION REPORTS</u> :	
	KAUAI SPORTS BAR & ASIAN CUISINE: Violation of Rule 7.9(d) Manager registration.	Ms. Akita moved to call licensee for Violation Hearing. Ms. Ventura seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.
Announcements	Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, October 1, 2015 – 4:00 pm, Mo'ikeha Building, Meeting Room #3.	

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	Director Rapozo noted that if there are no pressing matters, the October 1 meeting may be cancelled, and the next scheduled meeting held on October 15, 2015.			
	Adjournment			Chair Endo adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m.
S	•	sse Zaima, Private Secretary	Reviewed and Approved by:Pau	ıl Endo, Chair
() Approved as is.() Approved with amendments. See minutes of meeting.				